

# Quarterly Donor Spotlight

Summer 2020

“My dad hoped to attend the University of Notre Dame, but could not afford the high tuition. He enrolled at Marshall College instead and was able to pay for his education by working summers at Moundsville’s Fostoria Glass Factory in his hometown, Moundsville, West Virginia, selling blood to the Red Cross and cleaning lavatories in his dormitory, Hodges Hall, during the school year.

Without Marshall’s reasonable tuition and room and board rates, Dad would have never been able to attend college and fulfill his dream of becoming an engineer,” said Karen Grubber, the proud daughter of the late Jack Allen Grubber.

After graduating from Marshall College with a Bachelor of Science in general engineering in 1953, Jack started his career at the Naval Air Test Center in Patuxent River, Maryland, as an electronic engineer.

“When Dad arrived in southern Maryland, he wondered how he had gotten into such a ‘fix,’” Karen explained. “He planned to stay only a few years, and then transfer to a more urban government facility; however, he changed his mind in 1958 when he met Ann Hewitt through a mutual acquaintance at church. They married on June 18, 1960, and remained in southern Maryland until Dad’s death in March 2020.”

The couple had two daughters, Karen and Janet. Karen received her Bachelor of Arts in government and politics from the University of Maryland, College Park, *cum laude* in 1987. She graduated 9th in her class with a Juris Doctor from the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America in 1992. Karen resides in Arlington, Virginia, and has served as the in-house counsel at Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc. for the past 13 years. She enjoys traveling, reading and genealogy.

Janet received her Bachelor of Science in biology from the College of William & Mary in 1985 and then studied at the University of South Carolina, where she completed her Master of Science in public health in 1994. Janet has worked with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs since 2006 and is married to newspaper journalist Dan Kane. The couple has a ten year old son, Jack. The family resides in Durham, North Carolina.

Throughout his 40 years of service, Jack Grubber’s primary responsibility was electronic warfare and reconnaissance, working on projects such as enemy fire control. A lifelong learner, Jack enrolled at the University of Maryland and obtained his Bachelor of Science in electronics engineering and then received his Master of Science in management science from the United States Navy Post-Graduate school in 1976. At his retirement in 1992, Jack, who was then the Technical Deputy of the Aviation Board of the Board of Inspection and Survey, was awarded the U.S. Navy Civilian Superior Service Medal, the highest honorary award the Chief of Naval Operations or the Commandant of the Marine Corps may bestow on a civilian employee in the Department of the Navy and the highest award granted at the major claimant level.



Pictured: Jack Grubber, Karen Grubber and Ann Grubber on a Marshall Game Day.

The Grubber family recently established the Jack Allen Grubber Scholarship at Marshall University to honor Jack's memory with something near to his heart. This need-based scholarship will help students from the northern panhandle of West Virginia, which is where Jack grew up. The family hopes this scholarship will help students achieve their dreams, just as Marshall helped Jack achieve his.

"Dad always supported Marshall, but his genuine love of the school, or 'bleeding green' as he described it, began after the tragic plane crash in 1970. Dad attended Marshall's first home game the following season and witnessed Marshall's miraculous win over Xavier. After that, no other team could garner his attention," Karen said. "When Dad's second alma mater (Maryland) played Marshall in the 2013 Military Bowl, there was no question that Dad would be in the stands and wearing green."

During Jack's time at Marshall, he enjoyed attending football and basketball games. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, a fraternity, and often spoke about the "Stone-Age Stumble" party they hosted in the event room above Jim's Steak and Spaghetti House.

Throughout his life, Jack enjoyed collecting antique postcards from Moundsville and Southern Maryland, which produced two books: "Postcard History: Marshall County, West Virginia" and "Postcard History: St. Mary's County, Maryland." He enjoyed watching Marshall football and basketball games, and attending University of Maryland football and basketball games. Jack also was active in his Catholic Parish, liked to work crossword puzzles and enjoyed spending time with his friends and family.

The Grubber family hopes Marshall will continue to provide a solid education to the next generation of leaders. For athletics, they hope the football team wins a national championship and the men's basketball team wins the NCAA championship. They hope the next generation of students grow into kindness, making the world a better place.

"We face so many seemingly insurmountable problems--poverty, war, racism--but with education, faith and hope, we can build communities, strengthen nations and create a peaceful world," said Karen. "Education is a privilege. Do not take the easy path; work hard while in school and your effort will be rewarded. Take advantage of your education to learn to think for yourself by carefully and critically evaluating the vast array of information in our world."



Pictured: Jack Grubber, Karen Grubber, Janet Grubber, Dan Kane and Ann Grubber



Pictured: Jack Grubber, Janet Grubber and Karen Grubber



Pictured: Dane Kane, Janet Grubber, Ann Grubber, Jack Grubber, Jack Kane, Karen Grubber